Message Text

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R 281336Z APR 76 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY LONDON INFO AMEMBASSY OSLO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: EAIR, UK

SUBJECT: CIVAIR - US/UK AVIATION CONSULTATIONS

REF: LONDON 6250

1. BRIEF DESCRIPTION TWO ISSUES REFERRED TO REFTEL AS FOLLOWS:

A. UK HAS INDICATED ITS INTENT DESIGNATE CATHAY PACIFIC ON UK ROUTE 7 (HONG KONG VIA SEVERAL INTERMEDIATE POINTS TO GUAM, HONOLULU, AND SAN FRANCISCO). IN ACCORDANCE 1966 AGREED PROCEDURES, WE HAVE ASKED CONSULT ON THIS MATTER. ACTUAL CATHAY PACIFIC PLAN IS TO OPERATE HONG KONG-MANILA-GUAM.

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B. PAN AMERICAN HAS SINCE APRIL 25 OPERATED DAILY SERVICE

FROM HONOLULU/WEST COAST US VIA POLAR ROUTE TO LONDON AND BEYOND TO BERGEN AND OSLO WITH CHANGE OF GAUGE FROM 747 TO 727 AT LONDON. IN TALKS IN FEBRUARY AND MORE RECENTLY APRIL, UK EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER UNDUE EFFECT ON BRITISH AIRWAYS OPERATIONS BETWEEN LONDON AND NORWAY, WHICH APPARENTLY OPERATED IN POOL WITH SAS.

- 2. DEPT WISHES DEFER FORMAL RESPONSE TO UK PROPOSAL FOR CONSULTATIONS UNTIL WE KNOW WHERE MATTERS STAND ON TRANSATLANTIC CAPACITY. ALTHOUGH APRIL DISCUSSIONS WERE CONFINED TO TRANSATLANTIC CAPACITY, UK REPS MADE IT CLEAR THEY WERE ALSO CONCERNED IN LONG TERM OVER PACIFIC SITUATION WHERE BRITISH AIRLINES ARE NOT NOW OPERATING TO ANY US POINT. CLEARLY, THIS WILL BE ONE OF MAIN ISSUES IN OVERALL US-UK NEGOTIATIONS OF AIR SERVICES AGREEMENT WHICH WILL HAVE TO BE UNDERTAKEN SOONER OR LATER.
- 3. ASIDE FROM SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES WE WILL NOT KNOW PROBABLY UNTIL END THIS WEEK WHETHER OUR NEGOTIATING SCHEDULE WILL PERMIT CONSULTATIONS IN LONDON MAY 11. SUGGEST THEREFORE EMBASSY ADVISE UK THAT US NEGOTIATORS MAY BE OTHERWISE ENGAGED MAY 11 BUT THAT WE WILL RESPOND TO PROPOSED DATE BY MAY 3 OR 4. SISCO

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Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: CIVIL AVIATION, AIR SCHEDULES, AIR ROUTES, NEGOTIATIONS

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To: LONDON

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